GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1667
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000
JHAG WALE SHAMPOO AND TOOTHPASTE SE CANCER
BRAHMANAND MANDAL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards news-item captioned `adhik jhag wale shampoo aur toothpaste se cancer` appearing in the `Rashtriya Sahara` New Delhi dated October 16, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of the company manufacturing excess lather shampoo and toothpaste; and

(c) the details of action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) Yes sir. Sodium Laurayl Sulphate (SLS) is a foaming agent and emulsifier used world wide in cosmetic preparations and is recognised as a safe ingredient. The standard for cosmetics prescribed under Drug & Cosmetics Rules also allow the use of SLS, and all cosmetics manufactured and marketed in India have to comply with these standards. There are no reports of studies linking SLS to incidence of Cancer.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a)& (b) above.